

UTAH TO GET \$7.7 MILLION TO REDUCE CLASS SIZE

In his weekly radio address, President Clinton will urge Congress to work in a bipartisan spirit to continue his plan to reduce class size in early grades to 18 students per teacher. He will also announce that the U.S. Department of Education is releasing new guidelines to help states and local school districts use the funds they will receive this summer to begin hiring well-qualified teachers to reduce class size in early grades. As the U.S. Senate considers the Education Flexibility Act, it is more important than ever that the Murray-Kennedy amendment to continue the President's class size reduction plan is passed as well.

Studies show that smaller class sizes help teachers provide more personal attention to students and spend less time on discipline; as a result students learn more and get a stronger foundation in the basic skills. In 1998, President Clinton proposed to help local schools hire 100,000 well-prepared teachers in order to reduce class size in grades 1-3 to a national average of 18, and make sure that every child gets a solid foundation in the basics. Last year, the President signed into law the first installment of his seven-year, \$12.4 billion proposal to hire 100,000 new teachers nationwide. For the first year, \$1.2 billion was provided to help local communities hire 30,000 teachers. The funds will be available to school districts in July. Local school boards will be incorporating these funds into the budgets they are developing right now for the next school year. To give communities the certainty they need to effectively plan and phase in a seven-year reduction in class size, Congress must act now.

In July, Utah will receive \$7.7 million as its first installment of funds to hire teachers to reduce class size in early grades. For Utah's largest school districts, that means:

UTAH	
GRANITE SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$1,295,576
JORDAN SCHOOL DISTRICT	782,641
DAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT	677,649
SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL DI	662,787
ALPINE SCHOOL DISTRICT	532,206
OGDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT	383,029
WEBER SCHOOL DISTRICT	345,106
WASHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRI	344,226
PROVO SCHOOL DISTRICT	324,016
NEBO SCHOOL DISTRICT	310,319
SAN JUAN SCHOOL DISTRICT	177,306
UINTAH SCHOOL DISTRICT	168,801
CACHE SCHOOL DISTRICT	147,460
BOX ELDER SCHOOL DISTRIC	143,622
LOGAN SCHOOL DISTRICT	138,544
IRON SCHOOL DISTRICT	138,233
TOOELE SCHOOL DISTRICT	124,365
DUCHESNE SCHOOL DISTRICT	123,088
CARBON SCHOOL DISTRICT	115,798
MURRAY SCHOOL DISTRICT	108,911

The guidelines and total estimated school district allocations are available on the Internet at <http://www.ed.gov/inits/ClassSize/index.html>.